



# *Friends of Michigan History, Inc.*

**FRIENDS OF MICHIGAN HISTORY, INC**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Historic Fort Wayne**

**Detroit, Michigan**

**August 13, 2007**

## **Board of Directors**

### **Officers**

Francis "Bus" Spaniola,  
President  
*Corunna*

David H. Brickey,  
Vice-President  
*Ewart*

Keith G. Harrison,  
Secretary  
*Holt*

Richard S. Johnson,  
Treasurer  
*East Lansing*

### **Directors**

Adriana Greci Green  
*Detroit*

Keith I. Pohl  
*Mason*

Charles Seeley  
*Lansing*

Tom Shawver  
*Lansing*

Louise W. Stilwill  
*East Lansing*

Paul M. Tarr, Jr  
*Lansing*

Tom Truscott  
*Lansing*

Bill Wellman  
*East Lansing*

Geneva Kebler Wiskemann  
*Lansing*



## **Call to Order**

President Bus Spaniola called the Board of Directors (Board) meeting of the Friends of Michigan History (Friends) to order at 1:20 PM.

*Board Members Present:* Keith Harrison, Adriana Greci Green, Charles Seeley, Tom Shawver, Bus Spaniola, Paul Tarr, and Tom Truscott.

*Board Members Absent:* David Brickey, Richard Johnson, Keith Pohl, Louise Stillman, Bill Wellman, and Geneva Wiskemann.

*Board Members Excused:* Richard Johnson, Keith Pohl, Louise Stillman, Bill Wellman, and Geneva Wiskemann.

*Michigan Historical Museum (Museum) Staff Present:* None.

*Guests Present:* Mrs. Paul Tarr and Mrs. Bus Spaniola.

## **Approval of Agenda**

***A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda; motion passed.***

## **Minutes from Previous Meeting**

***A motion was made and seconded to approve as transmitted the minutes from the previous Board meeting; motion passed.***

The minutes from the Friends' Annual meeting, which took place on the same date, will remain in draft form until the next annual meeting in 2008.

## **President Report**

President Spaniola expressed his appreciation to Mrs. Kim Price from the Detroit Recreation Department, Mr. Jim Conway, Fort Wayne Project Coordinator, and to Tom Berlucchi and Will Eicher of the Fort Wayne Coalition for providing the history and tour of Historic Fort Wayne. The star Fort, Barracks, Spanish-American Guard House, the Commanding Officer's home, and the World War II Tank and armaments were most impressive. The three hours were well spent.

It was reported that approximately 40 people attended the official opening of the Deer Hunting exhibit. While there were signs around designating the Friends as a contributing organization to the event and it was mentioned in the opening remarks, there was little mention regarding the size of the financial support that was provided by the Friends for the exhibit.

**P.O. Box 17035 • Lansing, MI 48901 • (517)-373-2565 • Fax (517) 241-3647**

**[www.michigan.gov/friendsofmichiganhistory](http://www.michigan.gov/friendsofmichiganhistory)**

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**Treasurer Report**

<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>07-01-07</b>	<b>13,857.62</b>
<b>DEPOSITS</b>	<b>07-13-07</b>	
FOMA	1,406.20	
Fayette	16.60	
Walker Tavern	<u>43.20</u>	
	1,466.00	<b>+ <u>1,466.00</u></b>
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>= 15,323.62</b>
<b>CASHED CHECKS</b>		
#1309 Collins	75.00	
# 1310 Thill	75.00	
#1312 Baird	150.00	
#1315 Damcizak (ME)	82.35	
#1316 Friends of WT	735.70	
#1317 Fayette Chapter	16.60	
#1318 Eng. Graphics (ME)	<u>208.00</u>	
	2,342.65	<b>- <u>2,342.65</u></b>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>07-31-07</b>	<b>= 12,980.97</b>
<b>ALLOCATED FUNDS</b>		
Document Conservation	1,000.00	
Reenactment Ribbons	725.00	
Battle Streamers	100.00	
Museum Exhibit	<u>2,709.65</u>	
	4,579.65	<b>- 4,579.65</b>
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>		<b>- <u>0-</u></b>
<b>AVAILABLE FUNDS</b>	<b>07-31-07</b>	<b>= 8,401.32</b>

*A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's report as transmitted; motion passed.*

**Presentation of Bills**

\ No bills were presented for payment.

**Museum Report**

There was no Museum report since there was no Museum representative present.

### **Committee Reports**

A. *Map Preservation Committee* – No report.

B. *2007 Veterans Day Program Committee* – Paul Tarr reported that his committee will be finalizing the details for the program during this month and will have a report for the September meeting.

C. *Board Nominating Committee* –No report.

D. *Membership Committee* – Keith Harrison reported that he had obtained the Friends Display setup and has been in contact with Museum personnel regarding brochures for the Jackson Civil War Muster (August 25 & 26). The flyer that was prepared for Civil War book discount for individuals joining the Friends will be mass-produced and made available as a handout along with the Friend's Brochure at the event.

Keith Harrison further reported that the Unit Battle Streamers and the individual 12" ribbons were in and that the previously Board-approved bills for the two items will be submitted to the Treasurer for payment. Directions to the Civil War Muster and a Saturday and Sunday work schedule will be sent out to the Board members for volunteers to staff the display during the Civil War event.

E. *Magazine/Military Committee* – Paul Tarr indicated that the Adjutant General for the state of Michigan would be able to arrange the delivery of the *Michigan History* magazines. All that will need to be done is to get the magazines to the Adjutant General.

F. *Grants Committee* – No report.

### **Old Business**

A. *License Plates*. President Spaniola briefly reported on his efforts to have the state establish a Michigan History license plate. Currently, the bill to establish the license plate is pending.

B. *IRS Group Exemption Application – Status*. There was no discussion on this topic. It was postponed to the September meeting.

### **New Business**

A. *Historic Fort Wayne Fund Raiser Program*. The Board discussed several ways to assist the Fort Wayne Coalition in its efforts to rejuvenate Historic Fort Wayne, including hosting a book-signing (*Images of America: Detroit's Historic Fort Wayne* by James Conway and David Jamroz, Published by Arcadia Publishing) and power-point presentation program on the Fort at the Museum. The Board needs to check to see if the book is in the Museum Book Store.

Keith Harrison was appointed by President Spaniola as the Friends' Liaison to the Fort Wayne Coalition.

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It was suggested that the Board provide the Fort Wayne Coalition with a donation of \$250 to further its work at the Fort. This issue will be discussed further at the September meeting.

B. *Other State History Programs Fund Raisers.* The Board discussed several other state historical programs that it could help promote including, the Detroit Soup Kitchen Program, Steam Tractor History (in conjunction with Michigan State University's annual Agricultural Expo (Charles Seeley was requested to look into the feasibility of this), and the Train Wreck that occur in the Adrian, Michigan area.

C. Friends of Michigan History Newsletter. Concern was expressed for the ceasing of the publication and distribution of the Friends Newsletter without consultation with the Friends. President Spaniola will investigate the circumstances and report back in September.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectively submitted,

*Keith G. Harrison*

Keith G. Harrison, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Friends of Michigan History, Inc.

**The next Regular Board meeting will be Monday, September 10, 2007, in Lansing.**